

Weekly Status & Information Report: September 10 - 14, 2012

1. Official City Meetings Scheduled the Week of September 17, 2012:

- City Council meeting, Tuesday, September 18, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

- Washington Adventist Hospital Land Use Committee meeting, Tuesday, September 18, 7:00 p.m. in the Hydrangea Room

All meetings are held in the Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue, and are open to the public unless noted otherwise. (City Clerk)

2. Pinecrest Neighborhood Sidewalk Meeting: On Tuesday, September 18 there will be a meeting to discuss a request for new sidewalks in the Pinecrest neighborhood. The meeting is scheduled for 7:30 p.m. and will be held at 6411 Orchard Avenue. (Public Works)

3. Jackson Avenue (7300 and 7500) Sidewalk Design Review Meeting: On Thursday, September 20 there will a neighborhood meeting to review new sidewalk designs for the 7300 and 7500 block of Jackson Avenue. The meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Lilac Room of the Community center, 7500 Maple Avenue. (Public Works)

4. ADA Sidewalk Improvements Continue: Work is continuing on Poplar Avenue, between Columbia Avenue and Elm Avenue next week to improve the existing sidewalks and bring them into compliance with accessibility laws. In addition, several repairs are planned to existing stormwater inlets and connections to improve their operation. The following week, the sidewalk repair work will start on Sycamore Avenue. (Public Works)

5. The Fortress - Screening and Discussion - TONIGHT: We are Takoma and the Karabakh Foundation present a free screening of "The Fortress," a film by critically acclaimed Azerbaijani director Shamil Najafzade. "The Fortress," selected to represent Azerbaijan in the Foreign Language Film category at the 81st Academy Awards, tells the story of a film crew that arrives in a remote border village in the mountains of Azerbaijan to shoot a historical account of war, heroism, and love when a real war erupts. The film is in the Azerbaijani language with English subtitles. Thursday, September 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Free Admission. www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events (Housing and Community Development)

6. "B&W" Opening Reception - TOMORROW: "In one week, create a 11"x14" black and white drawing on paper!" This was the challenge that six women worked on and the result is this debut show! These six women, with varied professional backgrounds, but one common passion, have put together their ideas and thoughts in the form of lines to create this B&W show. Exhibit can be viewed in the Dempsey Memorial Gallery until November 4, 2012. Opening reception on Friday, September 14, from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. in the Dempsey Gallery at the Takoma Park Community Center. Free Admission. www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/event (Housing and Community Development)

7. "Eyes on the Borders" Opening Reception - TOMORROW: The Arts and Humanities Commission and the Art Latin American Collective Project, in celebration of Latino Heritage Month, are pleased to present the work of nine artists from the Pampas, Andes, Amazon, the Atlantic and Pacific coasts and the Caribbean. "Eyes on the Border" opens on Friday, September 14 with a reception in the Atrium Gallery from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and will be on display in the Galleries at the Takoma Park Community Center through November 4. Free Admission. www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/events (Housing and Community Development)

8. "On Identity in the Arts: What Does It Mean to be Latino?" - TOMORROW: Lecture by Cuban-American artist and blogger, Lenny Campello. Event held in conjunction with the opening of the Latino American exhibit, "Eyes on the Border." Friday, September 14, at 8 p.m. in the Takoma Park Community Center Auditorium. Free Admission. www.facebook.com/TakomaParkMD/event (Housing and Community Development)

9. Fourth Annual Day of Play: On Saturday, September 22 in partnership with Takoma Plays!, the Recreation Department will be providing a Day of Play! This free event is open to families of all ages and will be held at Takoma Park Middle School from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Popular events such as Touch-A-truck, chess and Simon says will return. For additional information please visit www.takomaplays.org. (Recreation)

10. Tenant Rights Class - October 11: Are you having trouble getting repairs done in your apartment? Do you know how to protect your security deposit? Is the rent you are paying correct under the Takoma Park code? These are just some of the topics that will be discussed at this free class that will be held on Thursday, October 11 from 7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. Pre-registration is required by calling 301-891-7215. (Housing and Community Development)

11. Homeowners/Renters Tax Credit Deadline Extended-10/31/12: The homeowners' and renters' tax credit programs are designed to help low-income homeowners and renters by limiting the amount that they must pay in property taxes. To receive the tax credit, an application and all supporting documents must be sent to the State of Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation normally no later than September 1 of each year. The filing deadline has been extended to October 31, 2012. To obtain an application, go to <http://www.dat.state.md.us/sdatweb/taxcredits.html#htcrct> or call Linda Walker at 301.891.7222. (Housing and Community Development)

12. CDBG Applications Available: The City of Takoma Park's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program provides funding for a wide range of activities focused on neighborhood revitalization, economic development, and improved community facilities and services. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis to community organizations and nonprofit entities. Deadline for

submissions is 4:00 p.m. on Monday, September 24, 2012. Program Guidelines and FY14 Application Form are available at www.takomaparkmd.gov/ (Housing and Community Development)

13. Buying a House or Condo? -First Time Home Buyer Class - October 20: Now is the time to brush up on the entire process for purchasing a house or a condo. Where do you start? Right here in this free class (non-residents of Takoma Park-\$25), where you will learn how to select a real estate agent, how to access low interest loan programs sponsored by the county and state, how to read a HUD1 form, what to look for at your closing and much, much more. All attendees receive a certificate of completion for a First Time Home Buyer Class which is required when you use county or state loan programs. The class will be held on Saturday, October 20 from 8:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at the Takoma Park Community Center, 7500 Maple Avenue. Class size is limited to 30 persons and pre-registration is required by calling 301.891.7222 or LindaW@takomagov.org. (Housing and Community Development)

14. New Session for Pilates Begins: On Wednesday, September 12, 2012, Takoma Park Recreation Center began a new session for Pilates under the instruction of Nancy Nickell. Pilates is a mixture of precision body toning, stretching and core strengthening that concentrates on exercising the whole body to reach your goal of being leaner. This class meets on Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. Register now and enjoy the workout. Few spaces are available. Come and join the class and get fit. For more information, please call John Webster at 301-891-7289 or johnw@takomagov.org. (Recreation)

15. After School – Think Sports: The Takoma Park Recreation Department is offering some fantastic sports opportunities for youth when they get out of school. Sports include: tennis, flag football, and street hockey. The community center, located at 7500 Maple Avenue, is within walking distance from several schools in Takoma Park. For more information, please contact the Recreation Department at (301) 891-7290. (Recreation)

16. Seniors Visit Historic District: On Thursday, 17 seniors took a trip by way of recreation bus to the Historic Ellicott City. The trip was suggested through the Senior Advisory Committee and allowed Takoma Park seniors an opportunity to explore boutiques and bistros with their friends. (Recreation)

17. Tennis Clinic – Only A Few Spots Remaining: If you're between the ages of 10 – 13 and have thought about playing tennis – now is the time to register for the Youth Tennis Clinic. This after school program is held on Tuesdays at 4:45 p.m. and starts next week. For more information please call (301) 891-7290. Register online at www.activenet.active.com/takomaparkrecreation. (Recreation)

18. Takoma Park Folk Festival: On Sunday, September 9, the Recreation Department supported the annual Takoma Park Folk Festival which was held at Takoma Park Middle School. The Department provided fun games and prizes for the community. (Recreation)

19. Fall Classes: The Recreation Department still has spaces available for some of the 2012 Fall classes. Please check us out online at www.takomaparkmd.gov/recreation to find your favorite recreational activity or program today! (Recreation)

20. Officers in Meetings:

- On September 11, Montgomery County identified a potential problem with the steering wheel linkage in the 2005-2011 Ford Crown Victoria police vehicles. A failure of the linkage could cause a steering malfunction. We are working with Public Works to get the vehicles inspected for this problem.

- On September 12, Interim Chief Tracy and incoming Chief Goldberg conducted a special training session focusing on the events of the Discovery Channel hostage/active shooter incident. (Police)

21. Officers in Training: On September 11, 13-14, various officers attended the 2012 Patrol Rifle Range firearms qualifications at the MPCTC Firearms Training Facility in Sykesville, Maryland. (Police)

22. Community Outreach Officer (Pfc. Carla Magnaye):

- On September 9, Officer Magnaye hosted a police/community table at the Folk Festival.

- On September 11, Officer Magnaye attended an "Honoring our Heroes" detail at the Takoma Children's School (with the Takoma Park Fire Department). There was a receipt of gifts from the children and then they were provided with an opportunity to see emergency vehicles/equipment

- On September 12, Officer Magnaye attended a Triad/SALT meeting. There was an exchange of information among various agencies, specifically on safety/crime prevention for the senior citizen community. (Police)

23. Traffic Enforcement: Officers conducted at least 81 traffic stops, which resulted in citations, four vehicle impounds and one Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrest from traffic.

During September 2-12, 2012, the following details were completed:

September 2, 2012

- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign enforcement) – conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two State citations.

September 7, 2012

- Conducted a detail at various locations throughout the City at various times (tag reader) and issued 10 State citations and eight warnings.

September 8, 2012

- Flower Avenue & Garland Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued seven State citations.

September 10, 2012

- 7600 block of Piney Branch Road (Bus Only Entrance enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued no citations or warnings.
- Ethan Allen Avenue & Jackson Avenue (stop sign and no right turn enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued five warnings.
- Lincoln Avenue & Maple Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued seven State citations.

September 11, 2012

- 1300 block of University Blvd. (red light enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued four State citations and one warning.
- Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 60-minute detail and issued two State citations and one warning.

September 12, 2012

- Circle Avenue & Prince George's Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one warning.
- Flower Avenue & Garland Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued two warnings.
- Erskine Street & 13th Place (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation and one warning.
- Maple Avenue & Tulip Avenue (stop sign enforcement) - conducted a 30-minute detail and issued one State citation and two warnings. (Police)